[1st November 1932

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" Do not the Government think that if honorary visitors are treated like this, it would prevent them from discharging their duties impartially? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Certainly it would not prevent right-minded persons from discharging their duties properly."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know what was the reply given to Dr. Sitarama Sarma by the Government? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No reply was given as far as I can remember now."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" If the Government are not willing to place the whole complaint on the table will they at least give a gist of the complaint? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know why no reply was given to the representation made by Mr. Sitarama Sarma? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" The Government did not consider that it was necessary to give a reply to that kind of representation."

Alleged issue of an order by the Government for rigorous treatment of Civil Disobedience prisoners.

* 245-A *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether at the Conference of Collectors held on 18th May 1932, the question of discipline among civil disobedience prisoners was discussed;

(*b*) whether any proposal was made at the meeting to take special measures against this class of prisoners;

(*c*) whether any decision was arrived at in regard to this question and what the decision was;

(*d*) whether any order has been issued by the Government to the Inspector-General of Prisons on the basis of this decision ordering that no discrimination should be made in favour of civil disobedience prisoners and whether the Government will be pleased to place the text of the order on the table;

(*e*) whether any order has been issued by the Inspector-General of Prisons to Superintendents of Jails stating that A and B class prisoners should be " kept in their place and dealt with grimly; " and

(*f*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the orders issued by the Government and the Inspector-General of Prisons regarding the treatment of civil disobedience prisoners?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) No special measures against prisoners convicted of offences connected with the civil disobedience movement were contemplated. Orders have been issued by the

Government that the rules in the Jail Manual for the enforcement of discipline which apply to all prisoners should be observed without discrimination. The Government are not prepared to place a copy of the order on the table.

(*e*) The Government have no information.

(*f*) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know what was the decision arrived at in the Collectors' Conference with regard to the discipline of civil disobedience prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" There was no specific point on which a decision was necessary, but the Conference came to the conclusion that no discrimination must be made between civil disobedience prisoners and ordinary prisoners."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Is it not a fact that the Inspector-General of Prisons has ordered that these people should be ' kept in their place and dealt with grimly '? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The answer is found in reply to clause (*e*) of the question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know what exactly the Inspector-General of Prisons did with regard to these prisoners as a result of the Collectors' Conference? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" That is exactly what is stated in clause (*e*)."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know what was the occasion for the Government to issue orders that the existing rules in the Jail Manual should be strictly enforced? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because at the Collectors' Conference representations were made by some of the Collectors that a kind of discrimination was made in favour of civil disobedience prisoners."

Alleged circular instructions regarding the treatment of Civil Disobedience prisoners as ordinary felons.

* 245-B *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a circular has been issued to the Jail authorities to make no differentiation in treatment between civil disobedience prisoners and ordinary felons;

(*b*) whether there is any distinction now in regard to food, clothing or bedding or otherwise between civil disobedience prisoners of C class and ordinary felons;

(*c*) if not, what the new circular regarding no distinctions means; and